

**TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE**



FISCAL NOTE

HB 386 - SB 1203

February 28, 2011

SUMMARY OF BILL: Implements the Tennessee Voter Confidence Act (TVCA) only if the General Assembly includes a specific appropriation in the General Appropriations Act for FY11-12 for an amount necessary to pay all costs incurred by counties, as determined by the Secretary of State, that are directly attributable to the TVCA.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Other Fiscal Impact – Implementation of the Tennessee Voter Confidence Act will occur only if the General Assembly appropriates to local governments from the General Fund \$7,622,600 on a one-time basis in FY11-12 and \$4,174,900 from the General Fund every two years thereafter. Federal Help America Vote Act funds in the amount of \$27,000,000 will be available to reimburse local governments for the cost of new voting machines if the appropriations from the General Fund are made.

Assumptions:

- Federal funding of \$27,000,000 is available to purchase precinct-based optical scan voting systems in Tennessee. These funds have been provided to the state under the federal Help America Vote Act of 2002 (HAVA).
- According to the Coordinator of Elections, the cost to local governments to change to optical scan voting systems to conduct elections is estimated to be \$11,797,512. This estimate is based on a survey that was conducted by the Coordinator's office to ascertain the overall financial impact to local government to implement TVCA.
- According to the Coordinator of Elections, there will be a one-time cost of \$7,622,568 for the purchase of booths, security containers, training, storage for the ballots, and other associated costs of implementation of TVCA.
- The Coordinator of Elections also indicates a cost of \$4,174,944 occurring every two years for printing paper ballots statewide. This cost reflects an election cycle and does not include municipal elections, special elections, or a Presidential Preference Primary.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "James W. White". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "James" written in a smaller, more compact script than the last name "White".

James W. White, Executive Director

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